

REMARKS

Claims 1-66 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-9 and 12-26 were rejected. Claims 10, 11, 27-31 were objected to. With this Amendment, claims 62-68 were added, claims 10, 11, 27, and 30 were amended, and claims 1-9, 12-26 and 32-61 were cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 10, 11, 27-31, and 62-68 are at issue in the above-identified application.

Prior Election/Restrictions

Claims 32-61 were previously withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b). As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have now cancelled these claims without prejudice in response to the current office action.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-9, and 12-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Yamazaki et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,693,044). These claims have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants accordingly request withdrawal of this rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 10-11 and 27-31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As suggested by the Examiner, these claims have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1 and any intervening claims. In addition, because claims 10-11 and 27-31 were, or were based on, multiple dependent claims, 62-63 and 64-68 have been added (corresponding to claims 10-11, and 27-31 respectively), to include the limitations of base claim 2 and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



Alison P. Schwartz
Registration No. 43,863
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000